HOMEWORK NEWS

READING

There are district wide changes in homework that I would like to notify you about! As you are aware third grade students are required to read a minimum of 20-30 minutes a night. The new policy is that there needs to be some sort of sign off from parents that the students are actually reading. You will notice that I have changed the assignment sheet to include a spot for **you to initial** that your child actually read that evening. As of right now, we are not required to list the book and how many pages read. We are also not required to do a reading log, which I know will make many of you happy to hear. However, it is important that you encourage your child to read daily. Your initials let me know that your child has read that day. Thank you for your support at home in this matter.

Math

In addition to the reading sign off, the district is requiring that every child practice math facts **every night** as well. This can be anything from a simple math fact sheet, playing a math game that I have sent home throughout the year (please designate a box or folder to keep math materials in that can be easily accessed), flashcards, or even playing a math fact fluency game on the computer. Anything that does not have to be physically handed back in (such as a fact sheet), needs to be signed off by a parent that the child completed it. You will see a spot on the assignment sheet for you to **initial** that your child practiced his/her facts. Please write in or have your child write in what he/she did to practice facts (ex. played math game on computer, used flash cards, Hit the decks, etc.) Again, I thank you for your continued support at home. If you have any questions about this new homework policy, please do not hesitate to contact me. I believe a letter will also be coming home from Central Office regarding this new policy as well.

Please visit the classroom Wikipage for some fun math sites to visit that will help with fluency. I’ve added some new ones and will continue to do so throughout the year. You can always Google math fact fluency sites as well. As always, supervision while your child is on the computer is strongly recommended.

Please see the back of this paper for some math homework resources that can be accessed from home. New Homework Resources:

Websites with Fact Games:

[www.mathdrill.com](http://www.mathdrill.com)

[www.allmath.com/flashcards.php](http://www.allmath.com/flashcards.php)

[www.coolmath.com](http://www.coolmath.com)

[www.aplusmath.com](http://www.aplusmath.com)

[www.factmonster.com](http://www.factmonster.com)

[www.learningplanet.com/act/mayhem/index.asp](http://www.learningplanet.com/act/mayhem/index.asp)

www.funbrain.com

Websites with Printable Worksheets:

[www.aplusmath.com](http://www.aplusmath.com)

[www.mathfactcafe.com](http://www.mathfactcafe.com)

[www.superteacherworksheets.com](http://www.superteacherworksheets.com)

Other Ideas to Practice facts:

* Play Hit the Decks (Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication) : Take a deck of cards and pass them out equally into two piles for two players. Each player flips over a card at the same time. The player that says the sum, difference or product first is the winner and takes the cards. The player who has the most cards or all the cards is the winner.
* Create your own flashcards or use the ones that have been sent home from school and pile them into “facts I know” (jet) and “facts to work on” (bike and turtle)
* Time yourself with the same set of facts each night. Try to beat your time from the day before.
* Create your own flash cards to work on the ones that are causing you trouble.
* Write the clues on your flash cards to help you remember the answer. For example, for the fact 5 x 4 the clue might be that 5 x 2 is ten and double that for 20.
* Create a memory game to match a multiplication fact to its product, an addition fact to its sum, or a subtraction fact to its difference. Try to challenge yourself by mixing the types of problems within each game.
* Don’t forget to practice the table that you are working on for our Friday Timed Tests. You should be working on your addition and subtraction table that you are on weekly. Coming this week we will be adding the multiplication tables and very soon we will be adding the division tables to the choices.